MEMPHIS APPEAL.
SATURDAY . . JANUARY 31, 1885

PENITENTIARY INVESTIGATION.

The matter of the Tennessee penitentiary has aroused such a feeling of indignation in the public mind and among the State legislators that an investigation is to be made and the full facts brought before the public. It must be a real investigation, unaccompanied by any whitewashing process. Whether high in Church or State, the conduct of offenders against the moral sentiment of mankind, as well as against the law, must meet their responsibilities and encounter the popular verdict. Nothing less can be accepted, where the testimony is so direct and the alleged guilt so black. As a specimen of what may be looked for, is a statement made by a convict named Thomas, convicted of having received stolen goods, who had served out his eleven months sentence last week, and on his discharge from the Siberian —we mean the Tracy City "mines"— was interviewed by a Chattanooga *Times* reporter, and afterward repeated the statement formally on oath. He is described as presenting a pitiful appearance, the sight of which aroused commiseration, and he had to go to the hospital. He was emaciated and his body scarred by the lash, and so weak he could do little more than whisper his revelations of the hell from which he had emerged, and the black malice and cruelty of the fiends he had left behind him. The lash and cruelty are still at work there, giving an idea of the basis upon which the display and luxury is founded that is derived from the penitentiary gehenna, and flaunted aloft in pomposity and groveling pride. Thomas's statement described him as having taken a racking cough soon after being put under ground; the coal was only twelve to eighteen inches in thickness, the mine was wet, and the men worked mostly ankle-deep in water; each convict was required to mine seventy-five bushels of coal a day; if the task was not completed, from twenty-five to sixty lashes were given, with a whip made of sole leather; on an average eight or nine men were whipped every day, as it was impossible to offer the whole task with so small a vein of coal. The men slept in bunks so narrow they had to sleep one with the head one way, the other the other. The diet was corn bread and bacon every meal, the bread only dire hunger could make a man eat, it was so disgusting; to complain of the food brought a kick or a lash. There was much sickness, colds from standing in the water, and diarrhea. Dry clothes were given once a week, sometimes twice; wet or dry the convicts had to sleep in them. In vain are apologies made for the Tennessee penitentiary plan. Its horrors, its satanic fiendishness, its taskmaster's lash, the greed with which "the tale of bricks"—coal in this case—was exacted have too much of the genuine devil-feature about it to be mistaken. How luxurious it must be to eat food and wear clothing acquired by such means. With what unction, in a softly cushioned pew in a church of unquestioned wealth and fashion, must the recipient of delicacies so wrung out of wretched convicts declare to God, he and his family, that they are miserable sinners who have done what they ought not to have done. The Satan of the mine is generally polished off with the sanctity of the pharisee in the church. We say this as a common fact, however, for we have no idea who or what they are who revel in the thousands the penitentiary, lash and starvation, and sickness and seventy-one deaths a year out of 1000 produce. It would cost money, but the Pope ought to be hired to come from Rome and officially curse such people with all the authority of bell, book and candle.

THE FITZ JOHN PORTER CASE.

The country has long recognized the wrong endured by Fitz John Porter when, by the action of a court-martial, he was dismissed from the military service of the United States. Had a doubt remained in the popular mind, it was removed when Gen. Grant, with characteristic manliness and love of fair dealing reversed his former opinion as evidence upon the Porter case brought new light to his mind. In all this much was gained in behalf of truth and justice, but the victim of wrong was still a victim. The stigma a court-martial had attached to his name still adhered to it, as fast as law without justice could make it adhere. How was the wrong to be righted, the false verdict to be set aside, and the claims of justice be satisfied? The answer to this question did not appear any easy one to find. It was urged that Congress had no power to review the action of a court-martial; like the law of the Medes and the Persians, it could not be changed. Gen. Logan in his speech upon the subject said, referring to a former discussion of the matter: "I took the ground then, and maintained it. I believe, by decisions of the courts from the time decisions were made in this country in reference to questions of this kind, that Congress did not have that power." He and others with him were wrong, however, and it has now been shown that in 1849, in the case of Maj. G. B. Crittenden, convicted of drunkenness on duty and conduct prejudicial to military discipline, the Senate reviewed the decision of the court-martial. On the ground that the court-martial had not a proper number of officers of a rank equal or superior to that of the accused, the decision was annulled and Maj. Crittenden was restored to his former position. Accordingly, we read in a Washington dispatch of Tuesday last: "The papers which the President has been requested to transmit to the House in the matter of Gen. Fitz John Porter contain a case which destroys a great deal of the labored argument against him, extending through two Congresses." So perseverance has gained its object at last, but who can help but regret that human fallibility should have condemned a brave man to endure for years a stain upon his name so intolerable to a self-respecting and honorable man. "All's well that ends well," as far as the mere end goes, but there are wounds which cannot be closed, and recollection that no verdict nor time itself can efface.

OUR GRAIN TRADE

The course and prospect of the wheat trade of the United States should attract the serious attention of farmers and of the country at large. Our wheat exports are great sources of trade, and bring in much of the gold that comes to this country from Europe. The APPEAL has already shown how India has rivaled this country in the markets of Europe since the extension of railroads into the wheat lands. As the British government has undertaken to extend the Indian railroads still further, that rivalry will, of course, become greater. But that is not all that is working against this country. The Russian exports of wheat to Great Britain are rapidly increasing and our own decreasing. By a table published in the New York *Bulletin* we see that, in 1879, the exports from the Black Sea to Great Britain amounted to 2113 tons, from the United States, 67,097; in 1881, from the Black Sea, 10,349; from the United States, 23,348; during nine months in 1884, from the Black Sea, 23,830; from the United States, 18,805 tons. These figures show the present course of our wheat trade, and they cannot be contemplated by the American grower or the American public without concern. One cause of the change against us here indicated, as stated by the American consul at Londonderry, Ireland, is that the merchants exporting Russian wheat sell on condition that if the grade fails to come up to the agreement, arbitrators shall settle the difference and the buyer be protected from loss. The American export merchants sell by inspector's grading, and if the cargo is damaged coming from the United States, the loss falls upon the British buyer, and the consul remarks: "It is impossible to suppose that the manifest advantage of these last named terms should not prevail, even against some difference of price in securing a preference for the market that is governed by them." This source of injury to our commerce will of course be corrected when our exporters discover where their own interests lie, but the desire of England to deal as little as possible with a power that by its heavy tariff limits English trade with America, can be removed only when we judiciously and effectually reform our tariff. A country naturally prefers to buy from those who buy from it, other things being equal. The American farmer is told to look to the home market, but the home market will not sustain him. He grows a surplus above what the home market can consume, and must sell abroad or be embarrassed by "overproduction," as the manufacturers are embarrassed, and as the cotton-growers would be embarrassed were they confined to the home market. We repeat that the course of our grain trade is becoming a very serious matter for the farmers. They cannot afford to have a Chinese wall built by a high tariff around the country. They must have access to the world's markets and be able to compete there with the other nations of the earth. The manufacturers are coming to the same position. They can turn out a vast quantity of products beyond what the United States can consume, and they also must have access to the foreign markets. This is a necessity that is inevitable, and that will overthrow the high tariff as sure as the morning's sun brings daylight. Before this inevitable necessity, monopoly must break down, and the man who makes his fortune from taxes paid by his fellow-citizens must seek another and more creditable way of making a living.

LET THE PRESS FLY FREE.

To spread information among the people the government annually sends free through the mails hundreds and thousands of volumes and pamphlets. The newspaper spreads information to the people to an extent and with minuteness of detail and a promptness of communication and a variety of subject the government cannot possibly rival. While the government publications reach certain hands, the newspaper circulates everywhere. It is in the kitchen and the blacksmith's shop, in the banker's parlor and the millionaire's palatial drawing-room. It is the great educator of the people. The public school teaches the citizen how to read, the newspaper supplies him with what to read. Quick as the electric impulse can dart, the newspaper spreads before the people information from the four quarters of the world. From continent and island, from inland solitudes and busy marts, from legislative halls, busy haunts of commerce, church conventions, and where the boom of cannon and the cries of wounded men make up the horrid scene of the battlefield, the newspaper quickly gathers all that transpires and spreads the vast sum in a few hours before the people. And all become informed on matters affecting their fortunes, their personal welfare and the welfare of their own country and of foreign lands to the extreme limits of civilization. While the publications of the government reach comparatively few hands and embrace comparatively few subjects, the newspaper is all comprehensive, and small is the proportion that in this land do not see a newspaper at least once a week. The government publications that pass free through the postoffice only occasionally reach the hands of readers; the newspapers visits are incessant, constant as the sun, regular as the recurring seasons. The government publications not only pass free through the postoffice, but they are printed free. In the face of all this, who can say that while it is proper the government publications should pass free through the postoffice it is proper to charge postage upon the newspaper? Why? On what grounds? In compliance with what rational requirement should the newspaper be denied the free transmission to its purchasers that the other publications have to those who have not purchased? Let the reader summon up all his logic and tell, if he can, why, if the inferior and more limited mode of spreading information go free through the mail, the superior and universal one should be burdened with the weight of postal charges? Intelligent men generally admit that a freedom from burden granted to any other publications should, with much more emphasis, be extended to the newspaper. Of six bills and resolutions now before Congress, four favor the free, unfettered circulation of newspapers. Congress has before it a bill to reduce newspaper postage one-half, and it is favored by the Postmaster-General himself. Such a reduction would be a benefit; but why impose any obstruction whatever to the widest possible circulation of the nation's greatest teacher, the requisite indispensable to the patriot, the statesman, the merchant and the historian? In a free land the newspaper is the mightiest supporter and the most successful extender of freedom; let itself be free, then; free to go like the breezes over ocean, plain and mountain, into every street and alley, carrying to all with free access the inspiring breath of liberty and the inestimable gift of knowledge.

Murderer Hanged.

LITTLE ROCK, ARK., January 30.—At Corning, Clay county, this to-day, Lafayette Melton, a white man, aged twenty-three, was hanged for murdering Franklin Hale four years ago. It was proved on the trial that Melton was one of the Order of the Southern Brotherhood known as Ku-klux. Hale had been talking about them, and a plot was formed to whip him. A masked party found Hale in the woods at night and whipped him to death. Melton was convicted chiefly on the evidence of H. S. Lawrence, one of the party, but who a year after turned State's evidence.

The Missing New York Editor.

NEW YORK, January 30.—Nothing has yet been heard of the whereabouts of S. S. Conant, managing editor of *Harper's Weekly*. The assistant editor of that periodical this morning received a letter from the chief physician of the Pennsylvania State Asylum for the Insane, stating that late Tuesday night last a man applied for admission to the asylum. He said two Russians were pursuing him, and he was a newspaper man. In height he was five feet four inches, but in no other respect did he resemble Conant. Pinkerton's detectives are no longer working on the case.

Horribly Scalded.

AUBURN, N. Y., January 30.—James Sampson was repairing the interior of one of three boilers when the firemen turned the steam on, supposing it was cut off from the one in question. Sampson was horribly scalded, and died in an hour.

The Boston Pet Pays for His Fun.

BOSTON, January 30.—John L. Sullivan was fined $115 in the Municipal Court for last driving and unnecessary cruelty in beating his horse.

BEVERLY TUCKER,

Who Has Recently Been in Albany, Tells What He Thinks About the Cabinet of Cleveland,

And Also a Quite Apropos Story of His Father and Gen. Jackson's Offer of a Cabinet Position.

Cleveland's Presence and Counsel Needed to Keep the Party Straight—What He Says About Offices.

[REGULAR CORRESPONDENCE OF THE APPEAL.]

WASHINGTON, January 28.—Before the end of next week President-Elect Cleveland will be domiciled either at the Hoffman House or the Fifth Avenue Hotel, where leading Democrats will have easy access to him. In making this move Mr. Cleveland is consulting the convenience of those whom he wants to see and those who want to see him, as New York City is much nearer Washington than Albany. The proposed consultations will have much to do with the construction of the Cabinet. The opinion prevails among some of the Democrats who have had facilities for learning something of the President elect's ideas about his Cabinet, that he wants active, practical business men, and that he has a preference for what is generally known as the "Young Democracy." It is said that Mr. Cleveland does not regard old age as essential to success in the administration of any branch of the government; but on the contrary, he has an idea that men in the full vigor of physical and mental life are likely to do better than men who have fallen into the sere and yellow leaf.

Of late there has been some earnest talk about Representative Mitchell, of Connecticut, for the Cabinet. He is about forty years of age, and has accumulated a fortune by business enterprise and application. It is no secret that Ex-Gov. Waller is not popular among the Democratic leaders of his State, or at least that he is unpopular enough to be strongly opposed for the Cabinet. Ex-Senator Eaton, who has been mentioned, is somewhat advanced in years, and Mr. Mitchell is spoken of by his friends as "the very sort of a man Cleveland likes." In the last campaign Mr. Mitchell is credited with having done more practical work toward carrying Connecticut than any of his party associates. He devoted himself entirely to the work, knowing the State would be close, and succeeded in rolling up an increased majority in his district, which carried the electoral vote through. It is claimed for Connecticut that she is entitled to a Cabinet position, and, taking such hints as Mr. Cleveland has dropped about the kind of men he takes most into consideration, Mr. Mitchell's friends maintain that he fills the bill more accurately than any other party leader of the State.

Cleveland and the Democratic Party.

WASHINGTON, January 28.—The New York *Herald's* special says: A droll story has been going about here to the effect that the Hon. Wm. Dorsheimer, in his anxiety for the success of President Cleveland's administration, has urged Mr. Cleveland to come to Washington a month before the inauguration day and remain here to make up his Cabinet. It is said that Mr. Cleveland, who is not without a sense of humor, remarked on this original advice that it looked a little as though Mr. Dorsheimer thought he ought to go and set up an office in Washington.

This story, which some gossips pretend to have had from Mr. Dorsheimer himself, is a good deal laughed at, but after all it proves that the New York Congressman has had an accurate conception of his party's needs at this time. The party needs a head, a ruler, a commander, some one with common sense enough to tell its members what to do and what not to do, and with such authority as a President-elect has to enforce his commands. Mr. Cleveland cannot, of course, come down here in February, and "set up an office," but he would do the Democrats a very great service if he would cause his own ideas, wishes and policies to be distinctly known here, without delay, at least to two or three dozen gentlemen of both houses, who are, in different ways, very incautiously committing themselves, and, so far as they can do it, their fellow-Democrats to various courses which will certainly embarrass them and possibly the new President by-and-by.

The report that Mr. Cleveland means to spend next week in New York while, with leading Democratic Senators and Representatives whom he will summon to him therefore incites great interest here. The question is shrewdly put, "Will he ask their advice or will he tell them what he wants done?" Certainly he will do well not to be too modest. There is a disposition in some high Democratic quarters to deal with him as some of the Republican chiefs in 1861 attempted to deal with Mr. Lincoln—as a one-horse country lawyer, a lucky nonentity, whom the great lights of the party were to rule and lead by the nose. The Republican chiefs found out pretty quickly that Mr. Lincoln was wiser than the whole of them put together, both as a statesman and as a party leader, and the room followed where at first they tried to lead. But that was because Mr. Lincoln, modest man as he was, had a solid and judgment of his own and spoke out.

As Mr. Cleveland has made up his mind about a policy he cannot do better than communicate it without delay to the Democratic chiefs, and in such terms as will convince them that he is to rule, and not they. He cannot do worse for his party than waste time in listening to the torrent of discordant advice which will be poured upon him the moment he shows an inclination to hear it. If he is for the canal treaty or if he prefers few petitions to London; if he is for the national banks or for greenbacks; if he wishes the silver coinage stopped or indefinitely extended; if he wants trade with our neighbors and a peaceful foreign policy by Cuban and other commercial treaties, or if he wants no extension of commerce, but aggrandizement by war instead—in any case, he will never be able to do a more important service to his party than to tell them now, without delay, plainly firmly and without much discussion, what policy he proposes. Because if he does not do this it is quite possible that he will find only fragments of a party when he gets here, and such fragments as will require much patience and a very good quality of glue to stick them together again.

Cleveland on the Offices.

The Philadelphia Times special says: Ex-Representative Joseph Powell, of the Fifteenth (or Bradford) Congressional District of Pennsylvania, is in the city, taking in the changes in view of the change of administration about to take place. Ex-Representative Powell is a Democrat and was a member of Congress about ten years ago. In order to get himself on the professional situation from first sources Ex-Representative Powell visited Albany very quietly about two weeks ago and called on his old friend, Lieut.-Gov. Hill, now Governor of New York. The Lieutenant-Governor introduced him to the President-elect. It was under these most favorable auspices that the genial, dignified and statesmanlike but somewhat frosted, ex-Representative from Bradford approached the next Chief Magistrate of the nation.

THE INTERVIEW.

At Mr Cleveland's request Mr. Powell gave him such information as he possessed concerning politics in the northern half of the Keystone State, after which the President-elect said:

"I suppose your people begin to talk about the offices, and are making their plans for a sweeping and a searching change?"

"Yes, I think a general change in the offices," said the ex-Representative, "is expected. The Democratic party has charge of the administration, and its members want the patronage."

"Do they understand," asked Mr. Cleveland, "that where an officer has been faithful and efficient that he will be allowed to serve out the term of his commission at least, whether it be one, two or three years? To make an efficient administration we need experienced officers. To turn them out of office without at least the details of administration should be made in the changes which are made should be made in the regular course of business. Then there will be no embarrassment to the transaction of business nor sudden disturbance of the interests of the people and the government. This can be accomplished by taking up each individual question as they arrise."

Mr. Powell said he had heard that, quite recently, he question of the new administration, but that he did not know how true the declaration was.

"Yes, that is correct," said the President-elect, and I wish it understood where such have been faithful I do not think it good policy to turn them out. This will injure a political as well as administrative sense.

"But, Mr. President, where the parties have meddled in political affairs—where they have been bitter against us?"

"I intend," put in Mr. Cleveland, "to move very carefully in filling the offices. I shall not make mass changes, and particular y not until I am thoroughly posted. I must rely on my friends to aid me in this."

The conversation thus continued for about half an hour, the President-elect indicating very clearly that he would be glad to see his friends and hear what they had to say, but that he would have more important matters to deal with than the simple doling out of patronage. Mr. Powell says that he was struck with the statesman-like view the President-elect takes of the situation and the future, and he believed if the Democratic party knew its interests it would not seek to embarrass him, but abide his own time in all matters affecting party control and interest.

Beverly Tucker in the Cleveland Cabinet.

New York *Tribune*, of Wednesday: Beverly Tucker, the veteran Democratic politician, of Virginia, had tucked a big breakfast under his capacious waistband, and was in a happy mood when a *Tribune* reporter called on him yesterday at the New York Hotel. His voice has the old hearty ring in it that has been recognized by an acquaintance as wide as that of the late Sam Ward. Mr. Tucker has recently been in Albany. His brother, Congressman Randolph Tucker, is discussed frequently as a Cabinet possibility. Before the reporter could inquire about these matters, however, Mr. Tucker began the interview in the interest of peace.

THE INTERVIEW.

"Why is it," he said, "that the *Tribune* every little while pitches into me about being up in Canada and being a Confederate? I'm not. That's all dead and buried. I'm not in politics. Why is not everybody let that I would take. Why not let the past rest?"

"It is believed your brother is in line for a Cabinet position?"

"There have been some talk of his fitness. But he wouldn't do a thing to secure the position. I wouldn't have my name used to secure it for him. That isn't our way in Virginia. It isn't the way in the Tucker family. I'm glad to say I don't believe it will be used in connection with Gov. Cleveland. No, sir; all these raids on him for office only disgust him. I tell you a story or two illustrative in that regard. My father was elected chancellor of Virginia, which is the same as judge of the supreme Court of other States, along in 1830. Then he was elected Chief Justice, and I was a young newspaper monitor on the bench. When Gen. Jackson was elected he sent for my father to come and see him. He said to him that he felt bound as president of Virginia in those days. When he was coming up to Washington he had stopped at a hotel. Gen. Jackson sent a coach and four to convey him to the secretary's mansion, where the general gave him a dinner. After dinner the old gentleman called him into his private room and said: 'Mr. Tucker (they were all Misters in those days, no colonels, generals or majors as we have 'em nowadays, without even a captain—Law, I'd give $100 to see a real captain). Well, he says, 'Mr. Tucker, I'd like you to be my Attorney-General.' Then my father says: 'General, I'm obliged to you, but the people of my state have just elected me, the youngest man on the bench, to be the head of all. I have accepted the trust and I can't resign it honorably.' Take a day to think over it,' says Gen. Jackson. Next day he said to my father: 'When I spoke yesterday I did not tell you all that was on my mind. Chief Justice Marshall is, as you know, in ill health and declining years. He will not live long. It is my purpose to make you his successor. Now you have served as Attorney-General.' My father replied that his duty and obligation lay with Virginia. We there saw anything like 1—to refuse a subordinate position and the Chief Justiceship in a state where he was the leader of the bench and bar, when men run the road hard for the office. I do not think so. I believe the Congressman will go into the Cabinet, though I cannot say. Yes, I expect to see him. Mr. Cleveland met Gen. Grant at Albany. It was a purely social visit. I wanted to see the old man myself, and I did."

"What about the Cabinet?"

"Well, I don't know. Mr. Cleveland has made any direct decision in that matter. He has a liking for certain men, and probably has in his mind several he would like to have with him. I expect to be a special extra reform man. Pendleton is the editor-in-chief of the Cabinet. Bayard is a wealthy. It takes a rich man for that place now-days. Hendricks and Thurman offers can live on their pease, but the Secretary of State must entertain the diplomats continually, at great expense. Manning, of Minnesota, is talked of for the Postmaster-General. He knows all about it from his long connection as member and chairman of the Committee on Postoffices. Barbour, of our state, is also talked of for the place. The Postmaster-Generalship will also go to the South. It isn't certain that it will go to Virginia, though there is some prospect that it may. That's the position I am connected with which my brother is mentioned."

SUNSET COX

And the Naval Academy Investigation—Why He Gave It Up.

The Future of the Navy—The War of 1812—The Commercial Treaties.

[REGULAR CORRESPONDENCE OF THE APPEAL.]

WASHINGTON, January 28.—There will be no investigation of the Naval Academy at this session. Mr. Cox, who was first in favor of it, is now opposed to it, and is "disgusted with the whole business," as he put it. When he introduced a resolution before the House Naval Committee for the appointment of a sub-committee to make the investigation, he was much surprised to find that anyone was opposed to it. The vote was 7 to 5, and his resolution was defeated. Afterward, during the absence of Mr. Cox, the members who had opposed it reconsidered their action, and the resolution in favor of the investigation was passed. It was supposed that this action would delight Mr. Cox, as it was in accordance with his previous views, but when he returned he was coming from New York, where he has been absent seven days, he was in a very huffy mood, and said the whole matter ought to be dropped. "I never try to do a thing twice," said to the APPEAL correspondent, in a pouting tone; "I tried to get up an investigation, but failed. The members who opposed me have changed their views and have voted for a sub committee. That's what I wanted at first, but it's too late. I'm sick and tired of it. We couldn't get a day to bring the matter up in the House. Besides, I am opposed to it now. We've scared them badly down at the Naval Academy, and that will do good."

Mr. Cox is liable to grow grandiloquent and high by small provocation. After venting his ire against the members of a committee who then voted one way and then another, he branched off to the true mission of the Naval Committee. "We are going to build a navy," said he, "and we'll do it as soon as that man Chandler is out of the way."

Other members of the committee quietly smile at Mr. Cox's exhibition of pique. A republican member said: "Cox is very mad with the committee and with Secretary Chandler, because Chandler would not sit still and be pounded without hitting back. It reminds me of the little boy who called to his mother and said, 'Mamma, come out here and make him hold still while I hit him on the head with a hammer.'"

There is no chance for a committee of investigation to be appointed, he assure a day would have to be set apart for its consideration, and this could only be done by unanimous consent. Messrs. Boutelle and Goff, Republican members of the committee, are strongly opposed to an investigation, being anxious to protect Chandler, as are many other Republicans of the House, and of course there would be a great amount of objection to setting apart a day.

A SUGGESTION ABOUT THE NAVY.

A Pennsylvania member called attention to the fact to-day, that when war was declared against England in 1812 the United States had only frigates and sloops with 340 guns, while England had 900 ships manned by 140,000 men. "It was a plucky thing to do," said he, "to declare war under these circumstances, but England did not get much the best of us, even in naval fights. The Americans turned out ships with remarkable swiftness. Fully equipped three-decked frigates were completed at Philadelphia within sixty days. Of course that was the era of wooden ships. It would take much longer to turn out iron ones, but this country is prepared to build iron-plated ships with dispatch. If a war were to suddenly come a good many people would be surprised at the promptness with which a formidable navy could be put afloat. It is the manufacture of guns where slow work is required. That is something that Congress ought to provide for without delay. Naval battles are no longer fought at half-length range, and the very longest distance guns are required for effective fighting. We can patch up a navy, on short notice, but we would get badly left if a war ever catches us without the best improved modern ordnance for both sea and land fighting."

THE COMMERCIAL TREATIES.

It is said that a resolution aimed at the commercial treaties will be introduced in the House on the day of the delivery of an expression of the House as to the authority of the President and the Senate to make treaties affecting the revenue. The opposition to the treaties seems to be getting stronger, and its opponents say they can never become effective. They say that besides the danger attending any acknowledgment of the Senate's authority, a majority of the members will oppose the policy of making any treaty with a foreign government that would restrict us in the collection of revenues, which might become necessary at any time by the government becoming involved in war, or by any other way placed under extraordinary expense. Mr. Curtin, chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee, says he believes the Spanish treaty can never pass. The Mexican treaty, he thinks, however, is favored by the House.

Horsford's Acid Phosphate,

FOR SICK HEADACHE.

Dr. N. S. Read, Chicago, says: "I think it is a remedy of the highest value in many forms of mental and nervous exhaustion, attended by sick headache, dyspepsia and diminished vitality."

THE DYNAMITERS.

Alarm Over Threats to Blow Up the British Museum—Precautions to Protect the Building.

Arrest of Another One of the Gang in London and the Capture of an Infernal Machine.

Preparations for a Dynamite Convention in Paris—Carelessness of the English Police.

LONDON, January 30.—Harcourt, Home Secretary, has received information that the dynamiters have threatened to blow up the British Museum. Extra precautions have been taken to protect the building.

ANOTHER DYNAMITER ARRESTED.

It was reported late this afternoon that the Scotland Yard authorities have arrested a dynamiter at his lodgings in Westminster district and found an infernal machine concealed in his room.

PRECAUTIONS AT THE BRITISH MUSEUM.

Many extra policemen have been placed about the British Museum buildings in the courts where the antiquities are displayed. The exhibits have been railed off so that only a narrow passage is left through the middle of the courts for the sight-seers.

MORE THREATS.

The station-master at the London terminus of the Great Eastern railroad has received a letter threatening to blow up the depot. It was rumored that a man was arrested at the general postoffice carrying dynamite.

DYNAMITE CONVENTION IN PARIS.

The *Times's* Paris telegram says the object of the coming meeting of dynamite delegates in Paris is to propose terms of affiliation with the Fenian associations. Several extremists are anxious to form such a union. They have reported to abandon the policy of making attacks upon public buildings if the Fenians will aid the dynamiters in directing their efforts toward the destruction of British war-ships, and with that view it is proposed that Ex-Head Center Stevens be invited to attend the conference. It is also intended to move for the enactment of a French law against the persecution against Irishmen by the Sonnenne-Monnque Detective Agency. It is also intended to investigate the conduct of McDermott in remaining a spy in the British service. The leaders of the movement are aware of the whereabouts of McDermott, and, it is threatened, intend to offer a reward for his removal.

Carelessness of the London Police.

PARIS, January 30.—The *Gil Blas*, in an article to-day illustrates the carelessness of the English police. The writer narrates that just before the recent explosion at London bridge a French detective had tracked a foreigner, who was supposed to be a dynamiter, from London to Boulogne, from Paris to London, who had in his possession a clock-work arrangement charged with dyna-mite. This information the French detective conveyed to the authorities at Scotland Yard, giving the man's address and description. He did not even get the thanks of the English police for the information and no use was made of the revelations.

McCafferty Well Known in Rochester, N. Y.

ROCHESTER, January 30.—Capt. John McCafferty, charged with causing the London explosion, is well known here. The *Union* to-day publishes an article in which Maj. Joseph H. Chapin, Maj. Daniel A. Sharpe and Capt. D. C. Feely vouch for McCafferty's integrity and nobility of character. McCafferty has relatives here.

Regarded as a Hoax.

BERNE, January 30.—The Federal Council received notice of an intended dynamite attack upon the Federal palace by Anarchists. Although the threat is regarded as a hoax special police have been detailed to protect the building.

James Gilbert Cunningham.

St. Louis *Post-Dispatch*: This, it seems, is not the first time that dynamite has given James Gilbert Cunningham newspaper notoriety. A prominent local Irish patriot, who indorses the dynamite policy and knows much about the secret work of the skirmishers in this country, informed a *Post-Dispatch* reporter yesterday that Cunningham, now under arrest in London for complicity in the tower outrages, was the same young Irishman about whom an article was written in the *Post-Dispatch* nearly two years ago.

"It was an article about the manufacture of dynamite and infernal machines in this city," said the reporter's informant, and the young man was known here by the name of Michael J. Byrne. He stopped in St. Louis only three or four months, disappearing immediately after the publication of the *Post-Dispatch* article. He was in Chicago for a while, where they knew him as James Gilbert, and before that in Philadelphia and New York, in which latter place he brought me a letter of introduction under the name of James Cunningham. He was a harness-maker by trade, and I got him a situation here, at which he worked steadily during his stay. It was in a factory on Pine street between Sixth and Seventh. While at work in this factory one of your reporters found and interviewed him.

"He came to this country," the gentleman went on, "because he had to do so. He was one of a lot of young fellows implicated in the murder of a landlord, and, fearing detection, he and some of the others made their way to the United States. I think, myself, the young fellow felt anxiety to magnify his own importance as a factor in the cause of Irish freedom, stretched the enormity of any crime he was implicated in, and while here, at any rate, seemed to me to be laboring under a strange, but strong, hallucination that the city was crowded with English detectives who were looking for him. He was one of a select coterie of Irishmen who have their homes in the northwestern part of the city, and of whom Lynall, the stonemason, is a fair type. These men are rabid dynamiters, and each and all enjoy the distinction, according to their own statements, of having done something at home that the British government thinks of while remembering. They have shot bailiffs or threatened landlords, I suppose, by which action they have of course incurred her majesty's displeasure forever. Well, Byrne or Gilbert or Cunningham, as he was variously known, was during his sojourn here, the lion of that circle. He talked dynamite as freely as O'Donovan Rossa himself, who, by the way, I may as well tell you, I consider nothing but a big blatherskite. But Byrne was sincere, and not only meant what he said, but as long as I knew him did everything he said, too. He made a constant study of explosives—spent all his earnings in that direction, in fact—and was a young man of attainments far beyond what his appearance indicated him to possess.

"What course of study did he pursue?"

"He got his first lessons in the old country, where there are many men who are men secretly handling chemicals and experimenting with them in the interest of Ireland's freedom. These young men are college graduates. Many have come to this country and filled professorships of chemistry. Byrne took his first lesson there in the secret circles that are numerous. Then he came to New York, where he fell in with a German chemical professor, who is said to have taught many of the Nihilists the manufacture of explosives. He also fell in with Rossa, and was a frequent visitor at the Irish Relief Fund and its projector's method."

"Have you ever spoken with Byrne?"

"Oh, Lord, yes, dozens of times. He has frequently visited me at my home and whole family. Just as soon as my daughter, Kate, read the cablegrams about the explosions in London, and saw the description of Cunningham, she said: 'Papa, I'll bet anything that's Mike Byrne.' He used to write to my daughter, and as late as last August he sent her a letter from Denver, where he last was. Kate ran to her album, after getting the idea that it was Mike, and pointed out one by one her pictures of remembrance between the picture and the description. Then she got me the letter. In it Byrne spoke of his intention to go to California, but expressed a regret that he might soon come to St. Louis. Nothing was said in it about Ireland or dynamite. They were merely friendly letters that passed between the boy and the girl, that's all, and I sup. ose that he must either have gone to California and then around the Cape to New York or the old country, or probably went by way of Chicago. Anyhow, Kate heard no more from him, and neither did I."

"Have you heard him talk dynamite?"

"A hundred times. He was forever talking it, and he was himself the inventor of some improved dynamite cartridge that he could carry in his clothes without danger of detection. Like myself, he was firmly convinced that dynamite was the only salvation for Ireland, but he went further than I did—he was in for a war of destruction against everything and everybody English. I am opposed to killing or injuring innocent people. Byrne would not have anybody. He had a plan that would have worked admirably had it been put into execution. It was this: He wanted ninety-nine young men besides himself, all thoughly versed in the science of explosives. These young men were to be procured and drilled in this country. When proficient in their work their separate duties would be allotted to them and their mission explained. That mission was the simultaneous destruction of all the public buildings of London. How was it to be done? Easy enough. Byrne had it all planned out; and I have a map of London that is all marked up with red ink where Byrne wrote the buildings he wanted to destroy. The 100 young men were to get into London and carry their material with them as best they could, or they might manufacture the machines or explosive packages in London. A certain day and a certain hour were to be designated for the destruction. The signal was to be a mid-air explosion of a dynamite bomb, dropped from a balloon over the English capital. The mid-air explosion was to be of sufficient force to startle all London, and while the city was in excitement machines timed for three or four minutes were to be placed under the walls of all public buildings. Just imagine the ruin and terror that could be wrought in that way in a few minutes. England would be on her knees to Ireland that very day, for she would be given to understand that the agents of Irish liberty were still on duty, ready to repeat the work of destruction on the morrow. There were several young Irishmen of this city who listed to Byrne's schemes, and three of them, I know, volunteered to be part of the famous 100."

"Did he ever speak of any other plans?"

"He had a new plan every other day, and as he frequently visited the house so much, I suppose, to see my daughter Katie as anything else, I generally heard every new plan he had. I know one thing, and that is that if Cunningham, or Byrne, he had his men well drilled for the work they had in hand, and got them off the scene before the explosion occurred, and they'll be never heard of again, not even if Cunningham is hanged. He was caught himself because he is too rash and daring, and lingered too long in the neighborhood to see and rejoice over the destruction he had wrought."

"Has Cunningham or Byrne any relatives here?"

"Not in St. Louis, but he has some in Philadelphia, named Cunningham, and I think a brother-in-law named James O. Donn, in Clinton. I believe he has some friends, too, in Kansas City. He went to Kansas City after leaving here, and then proceeded to Denver, where he spent nearly a month working. At the time he left the track of harness-making."

"What was his manner of speech?"

"Slow, thoughtful and deliberate, just as the dispatches say; and that cockney dialect, that's him, too. He used to tell us stories in which he used that dialect, and kept our sides sore with laughing at him, for he was not only comical to listen to, but to look at, also, when he was playing the English swell."

"How does the description tally with Byrne?"

"It's him to a T. My daughter says so, too, and she ought to know, for, between ourselves, I think she more than liked Byrne. I think she loved him. But there, now, that's all I know, or think about him. If you want any more you can find it by looking back in your own paper."

"Can you lend us his photo?" the *Post-Dispatch* reporter asked.

"Go up and ask Katie," was the answer.

Katie, a handsome brunette of the Hibernian type, and not more than twenty years of age, was found at her home on North Fourteenth street. She was more persisted in. The matter should be left entirely to Congress, and this board should not alarm the country by dabbling in it.

Mr. Thurber offered the following as a substitute for the resolutions under discussion:

Resolved, That the suspension of the coinage of silver may become desirable, and that the secretary of the treasury should be empowered to suspend the compulsory purchase of silver bullion and coinage thereof, and, further, that the treasury of the United States should be empowered to receive silver bullion on deposit and issue certificates of convenient denominations representing the same.

Mr. Buchanan said he did not believe in lodging power of the kind proposed in the hands of any Secretary of the Treasury, especially at this time, when that official is to be changed, and the country is all at sea as to who the new official will be. He promised to amend the proposition of the Philadelphia Board of Trade, so as to make it read that, in addition to the repeal of the law making such coinage compulsory, Congress should also provide for the coinage of silver dollars of substantially gold value.

Mr. John A. Gang, Cincinnati, said he thought the country in much greater peril from the fact that greenbacks had not been demonetized than from the fact that silver has not been so treated. Ever since the panic of 1873 he prepared as a substitute for the resolution the following:

WHEREAS, The compulsory coinage of silver dollars is against public policy and threatens the country with serious financial disturbance.

Resolved, That the act providing for the compulsory purchase and coinage of silver bullion be repealed to the extent of $2,000,000 per month should be repealed.

Mr. Fraley, president of the board, addressed the meeting at considerable length, and then the proposition offered by Mr. Gang was voted down—9 to 15.

The proposition omitted by Mr. Buchanan was lost without division and the Thurber substitute was voted down in the same way, after which the resolution of the Philadelphia Board of Trade was agreed to without a dissenting vote.

The board then adopted without debate, on motion of Mr. Howe, of Chicago, the following resolutions presented by the Chicago Board of Trade:

Resolved, That the fullest intelligence is requisite to the preservation of the proper equilibrium between the various interests of the country, and that a department of commerce and manufactures should be established by the government to gather necessary information; also, that no bill now before Congress, or hereafter presented by Representative Dunham (an act to establish a department of commerce), and recommend its adoption to the Congress of the United States.

The question of foreign discrimination against American pork, presented by the Chicago Board of Trade, was then taken up. The resolutions of the Chicago Board were presented by Hately, of Chicago, and are as follows:

WHEREAS, The official provision inspector of the Chicago Board of Trade has, since his appointment, on the 1st day of December, 1884, inspected 211,975,196 pounds of cured meat; and whereas, the official inspectors at other pork-packing points as well as private inspectors of numerous packinghouses in the United States, that make a specialty of cured meats have been busy supplying the English market, and whereas, millions of pounds of the same have been condemned, and whereas, during these years there never has been found any such instances of diseased pork as those of cured hog meat affected with trichina, and there is not on record a single authenticated case of sickness arising from eating meat inspected for these years, and whereas foreign countries, by legislation and edicts, have prohibited, unconditionally, the importation of our pork products, on the misrepresentation that the same are diseased, yet allow the importation of meats from the continent of Europe, countries as questionably wholesome and sound as our own. It has been proven that such prohibitory acts and edicts have cast an unwarranted stigma and insult